

OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

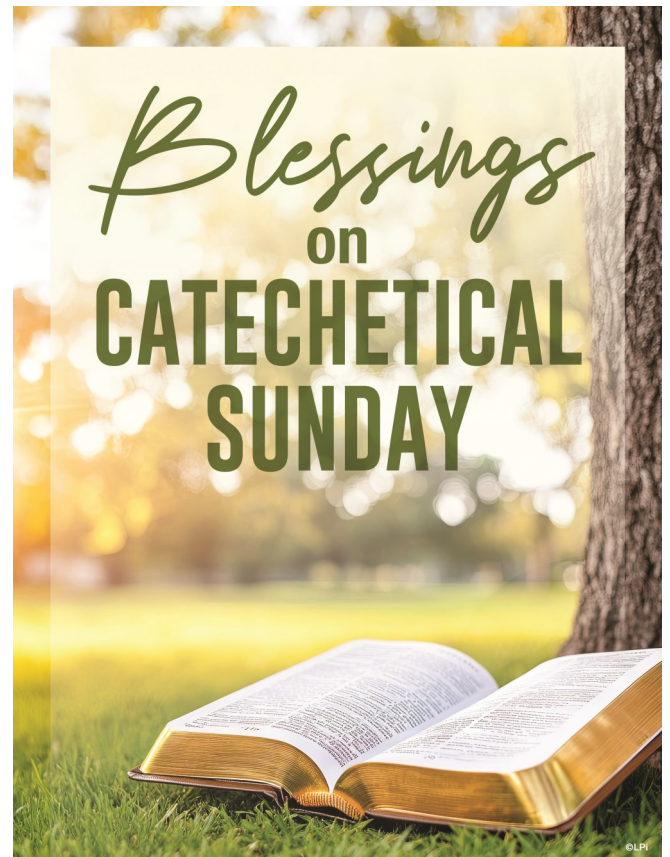
209 Woodcliff Avenue ~ Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677

Phone Number: 201.391.2826

www.motherofthechurch.org

Our Mission

To be a Parish Community where the Signs of Faith are given so that, seeing them, all can be led to Eternal Life.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Parish Directory

Barbara Ciannella

Director of Music

Music@motherofthechurch.org

Raquel Condon

Director of Religious Education

(201) 391-7400

FaihtFormation@motherofthechurch.org

Inga Nelson

Volunteer Receptionist

(Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)

Inga@motherofthechurch.org

Maria Garcia

Volunteer Receptionist

(Thursday)

Office@motherofthechurch.org

Fr. Jason Mantich

Pastor

Ext. 201

Pastor@motherofthechurch.org

Fr. Michael Oasheim

Parochial Vicar

Ext. 201

Vicar@motherofthechurch.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Closed Friday

Parish Pastoral Council:

PastoralCouncil@motherofthechurch.org

Weekdays

Monday-Friday 8:30 am

Weekends

Saturday 5:30 pm,

8:00 pm (Neocatechumenal Way Eucharist)

Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Holy Days

See bulletin for schedule of Masses

Reconciliation

Saturday

(Sign up using link on parish website)

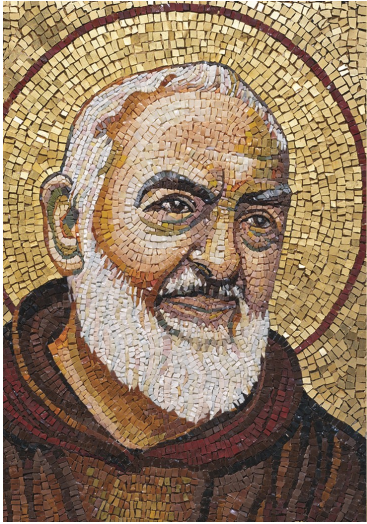
12:30 pm to 2:00 pm (Opus Dei Priest)

and

4:30 pm to 5:00 pm (OLMC Parish Priest)

(No sign up required. First come, first served.)

FROM FR. JASON



Saint
PIO *of*
PIETRELcina

©LPI

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On Wednesday, September 23, the Church celebrates the Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina, the humble Capuchin friar the whole world came to know as Padre Pio. The Lord raised him up as a living icon of the Cross and of the mercy that flows from it without interruption.

Padre Pio did not invent a new spirituality or a private devotion. He simply allowed the Gospel to become flesh in his own life until the end. From the day the stigmata appeared on his hands, feet and side, he carried in his body the visible marks of the

Passion of the Lord. He used to say with disarming simplicity: “I am a poor friar who prays.” Prayer, especially the daily celebration of the Eucharist and the endless hours spent in the confessional, was the place where he consented that Christ continue His work of salvation in him and through him.

We are invited to walk the same road. We receive the Word of God week after week, we let it judge and convert us, and we journey together as a community toward the fullness of the Christian life. Padre Pio shows us what happens when a baptized person allows that Word to take root and bear fruit. The wounds of Christ were not a private mystical experience for him; they were the concrete way in which the Lord continued to save sinners. Every morning he offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and every afternoon and evening he sat for hours reconciling penitents, making present the same mercy the Father poured out on Calvary.

This is the heart of the Kerygma: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, He was buried, and He rose on the third day. Now He lives in His Church and calls every baptized person to leave behind the old man and put on the new. Padre Pio’s long life is a confirmation that this is possible. He suffered calumnies, isolation, misunderstandings, and physical pain for decades, yet he never ceased to trust. He used to repeat to those who came to him weighed down by fear or guilt: “Pray, hope, and don’t worry.” These are not empty words of consolation. They are the fruit of a man who had discovered that the Father is greater than our sins and greater than our fears.

As we celebrate this memorial, let us ask the Lord for the same grace that He gave to Padre Pio. May our community become a true place of conversion where the Cross is not hidden or aestheticized, where the sacrament of Reconciliation is lived as a real encounter with the merciful Father, and where the Eucharist stands at the center and gives meaning to everything else. May we learn to carry in our own bodies the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in us.

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, intercede for us. Teach us to pray without ceasing, to hope against every human calculation, and never to worry, because the Lord is faithful. May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Peace,

SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

5:30 pm

Sunday

8:30 am

10:30 am

Monday

8:30 am

Tuesday

8:30 am

Wednesday

8:30 am

Thursday

8:30 am

Friday

8:30 am

Saturday

5:30 pm

Sunday

8:30 am

10:30 am



September 19

St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

Mary Ring



September 20

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catechetical Sunday

Finn Watters

People of the Parish



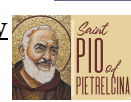
September 21

St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

Exuperancio Cabrera

September 22

Mimi Averill



September 23

St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Michael J. Vitti



September 24

Conrad & Juana Tabin

September 25

Mary Rizzo & Lucille Lotito



September 26

Sts. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs

Dr. Michael Varhol



September 27

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Priesthood Sunday

People of the Parish

Francis Dyer

For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven."

-Qoh 3:11

"A time to be healed."

Parish sick list: Marie Barrett, Dino Caparoso, Rev. Bob Connor, Mary Cummings, Arlene Desposito, Ethel Dubrowski, Ed Evans, Trevor Giesberg, Ann Goodwin, Kathy Hedley, Pablo Ibarrola, Joachim Jung, Vivienne Knopp, Ivy LaRegina, Genna Lepore, Julia Geraghty, Robert Libonati, Jessica Livingstone, John Mandile, Joyce Merlino, John Mullins, Carol Myack, David Plummer, James Ranazzo, Danielle Rendon, Gail Roberts, Carol Schmidt, Jean Sember, Bro. Kevin Smith, John Vallely, Eric Vanderleif, Bryce Werner

"A time to mourn."

"A time for war and a time for peace."

Tyler Aiello, Ryan Brady, Lcpl. Joseph Ryan, Seamus Ryan
Amen.

FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

FOOD | FUN | GAMES

Get ready to leap into the Fall with our Family Fall Festival - a fun-filled day of games, food, and community!

Sunday, September 27th, 2026

12 Noon - 3 PM

Join us as our guests! Please register so we can plan well. Registration takes place after the weekend Masses in the 'parking lot-side' lobby. When you register, you will get your ticket(s) that you **MUST** bring with you to enter the Festival on September 27 and receive your wristband(s) to access all the FUN! Join us on the planning committee to help make the festival an overwhelming success!

Walk in the way of the Lord with simplicity and do not torment your spirit. You must hate your defects but with a quiet hate, not troublesome and restless.

-St. Pius of Pietrelcina

Prayer is the oxygen of the soul.

-St. Pius of Pietrelcina

Stewardship of Treasure My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility

"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

-Matthew 20:16

You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

Receipts from Last Week.....\$4,791.00
Assessment.....\$1,538.00



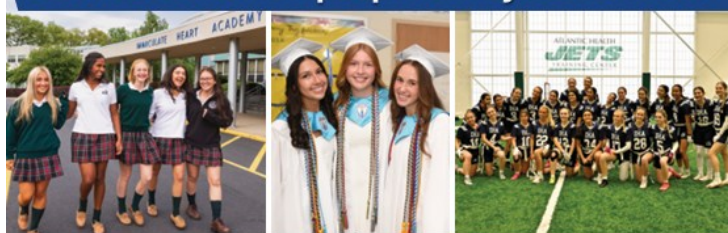
Electronic donations?

Please scan the QR code to use our 'Parish Giving' service.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Service. Scholarship. Spirituality. Sisterhood.



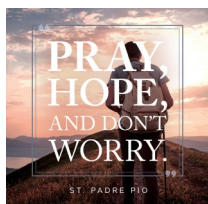
100% COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE (2026)
100% SISTERHOOD (FOREVER)

IHA is dedicated to empowering the next generation of leaders by challenging our impressive young women to develop their God-given talents for a future filled with endless possibilities. Find out why our extensive curriculum, artistic offerings, athletic teams, and Christian service programs are second to none.

Do you belong @theheart?

SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR FALL OPEN HOUSES:
October 18 at 11:00 AM • October 22 at 6:30 PM

500 Van Emburgh Avenue
 Township of Washington, NJ 07676
 201.445.6800 @attheheart ImmaculateHeartAcademy
 ihanj.com



St. Padre Pio Quotes

September 23

“Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God’s heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart. In fact on certain occasions you should only speak to Him with your heart.”

“Prayer is the oxygen of the soul.”

“The life of a Christian is nothing but a perpetual struggle against self; there is no flowering of the soul to the beauty of its perfection except at the price of pain.”

“Have courage and do not fear the assaults of the Devil. Remember this forever; it is a healthy sign if the devil shouts and roars around your conscience since this shows that he is not inside your will.”

“The most beautiful act of faith is the one made in darkness, in sacrifice, and with extreme effort.”

“Happiness is only found in heaven.”

“Walk in the way of the Lord with simplicity and do not torment your spirit. You must hate your defects but with a quiet hate, not troublesome and restless.”

“Have patience and persevere in the holy exercise of meditation; be content to begin with small steps till you have legs to run, better still wings to fly.”

“Do not fear. Jesus is more powerful than all hell.”

“The field of battle between God and Satan is the human soul. It is in the soul that the battle rages every moment of life.”



Divine Mercy Daily

Daily Reflections from the
 Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska

Meditation:

At that moment Jesus asked me, **My child, how is your retreat going?** I answered, “But, Jesus, You know how it is going.” **Yes, I know, but I want to hear it from your own lips and from your heart.** “O my Master, when You are leading me, everything goes smoothly, and I ask You, Lord, to never leave my side.” And Jesus said, **Yes, I will be with you always, if you always remain a little child and fear nothing. As I was your beginning here, so I will also be your end. Do not rely on creatures, even in the smallest things, because this displeases Me. I want to be alone in your soul. I will give light and strength to your soul, and you will learn from My representative that I am in you, and your uncertainty will vanish like mist before the rays of the sun (Diary, 295).**

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, give me the light and strength to rely on You as a little child, without fear. May I rely on You even for the smallest things, so I may please You.

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

Share Divine Mercy Daily with your friends and family:
TheDivineMercy.org/dmdsignup

Kid's Corner



1. In Jesus' story, who is the landowner like?
2. Did the workers who started late in the day get paid less than the ones who worked all day?
3. Why were some of the workers who worked the longest unhappy?
4. What did the landowner say when the early workers complained?

1. God! 2. No. 3. They thought it wasn't fair that the late workers got the same pay. Jesus teaches us not to be jealous when God is kind and generous to others. 4. He reminded them that he paid them exactly what they agreed on and that he is free to be generous with his own money. God is fair and full of mercy.

Answers:

SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS



St. Matthew

September 21

Patron Saint of Financial Workers

St. Matthew was one of the Twelve Apostles and the author of the Gospel according to Matthew. Before following Jesus, he worked as a tax collector in Capernaum, a profession that placed him on the margins of Jewish society. Tax collectors were often viewed with suspicion because they worked for the

Roman authorities and were associated with financial exploitation.

Jesus nevertheless called Matthew with the simple invitation, "Follow me." Matthew immediately left his position and became a disciple of Christ. His story reminds us that no occupation or past failure places a person beyond God's call and mercy.

Because Matthew was a tax collector before becoming an Apostle, he is traditionally honored as the patron saint of accountants, bankers, bookkeepers, tax collectors, and other financial workers. His life offers a beautiful example for everyone who handles money and financial responsibilities: to practice honesty, fairness, prudence, and integrity, while remembering that our ultimate treasure is found not in wealth, but in Christ.



A Little Humor...

A catechist was teaching their class about the Ten Commandments. After explaining the commandment to "honor your father and your mother," the catechist decided to test the children's understanding.

"Now, class," the catechist asked, "is there a commandment that teaches us how we should treat our brothers and sisters?"

Without missing a beat, a little boy in the front row raised his hand and confidently replied, "Thou shalt not kill!"



Start Your Marriage at the Altar with God

A "wedding" at a venue is not a valid sacrament. Start your married life with God and receive grace and Christ Himself as the 'third' person in your marriage through the Sacrament of Matrimony. In this sacrament, God's own divine life can be experienced and lived. Were you married only civilly by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? Contact Fr. Jason or Fr. Michael for details.



The Armor of God Prayer

A Daily Family Prayer for Children From Ephesians 6

Lord, today we put on the helmet of salvation to guard our minds and thoughts. The girdle of truth around our waists so we can walk and speak in Your truth. The

sandals of peace on our feet so we are ready to share Your good news wherever we go. We strap on the breastplate of righteousness to protect our hearts and the shield of faith to block any worries or lies that come our way. And we take up the sword of the Spirit, which is Your Word, the Bible, to help us be strong.

"Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

-Ephesians 6:11



Donate to the Tri-Boro Food Pantry

Don't forget, October 3/4, the 1st Sunday of the month, you can bring items to the Church that will be donated to the Tri-Boro Food Pantry. Check their website to see items they are most in need of for October.

ST. ANDREW'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP
120 Washington Avenue, Westwood, NJ
Multipurpose Room, Parish Center

Mondays, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

**WE ARE A CHURCH CALLED
TO BE FULLY ALIVE IN CHRIST**

Fr. Phil Latronico invites us to learn how, through the Holy Spirit, Vatican II empowers each of us to live the fully Catholic Life today.

SEPTEMBER 21:
The Church living the realities of Vatican II

SEPTEMBER 28:
Living a fully Catholic Life – The reality of being fully alive in Christ



Fr. Phil Latronico is a priest for 40 years and serves as the Chaplain of the Community of God's Love, Chair of the Archdiocesan Commission of Interreligious Affairs, Executive Secretary of the Commission for Christian Unity, Secretary to the National Catholic Association of Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers, and Chaplain to Peace Care at St. Joseph's.

All are Welcome – Please Register

Contact Viola: Coordinator of St. Andrew's Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group
201-666-5697

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

ANNUAL²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

Our Lady Mother of the Church has received \$37,344.00 in pledges for this year's Archdiocesan Annual Appeal from 66 donors and has achieved 109% of our Base Goal! Thank you to those parishioners who have made their gift to the 2026 Annual Appeal! Please be sure to honor your pledges. This year's time period for the Stretch Goal incentive built into the appeal has passed as of June 30, 2026.



If you would like to make a gift to the Annual Appeal, please visit www.rcan.org/sharing or scan the QR code. Your gift will truly make a difference. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Do not fear. Jesus is more powerful than all hell.

-St. Pius of Pietrelcina

WEEKEND WORKSHOP

The 7 Principles for Making Marriage Work

DISCOVER ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES TO ENHANCE YOUR MARRIAGE AND CONNECTION.

LED BY CERTIFIED GOTTMAN THERAPIST
JOEL LEVINE
With over 25 years as a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

BASED ON THE BEST SELLING BOOK BY
JOHN M. GOTTMAN
The foremost relationship expert

JOIN US OCTOBER 3 & 4
A two-day workshop for couples invested in building a stronger, healthier marriage.

PRACTICAL STRATEGIES
Learn research-based tools to strengthen communication, resolve conflict, and deepen intimacy

STRONGER CONNECTION
Build understanding, trust, and lasting connections.

LASTING IMPACT
Take home practical skills you can use right away.

READY TO INVEST IN YOUR MARRIAGE?
Spots are limited. Register today!

BOOK MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL: 201-259-7229

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
OVER A MILLION COPIES SOLD

the Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work

A Practical Guide from the Country's Foremost Relationship Expert

JOHN M. GOTTMAN, PH.D.,
and NAN SILVER

SCAN TO REGISTER or visit our website to learn more.

Heritage Fund

The Our Lady Mother of the Church Heritage Fund is a **restricted fund** created to complete projects and improvements in the parish. It is **restricted**, meaning that all donations will remain in the parish and cannot be used for any other purpose except for the named project donated to. Proposed projects are named below and as they are completed, it will be communicated here.

Proposed Project	Estimated Cost
Church Shingled Roof	\$150,000.00

Current Funding: \$76,807.19.

If you would like to donate to this project, please make checks payable to 'Our Lady Mother of the Church' with 'Heritage Fund - New Church Roof' in the memo line. Thank you for your support! May God give you 100-fold! Remember, He is never outdone in generosity!

Update 7/12/26: You might have noticed that the shingled roof replacement has been finished! See above to learn how to support this project!

Respect Life Corner

New Jersey MARCHforLIFE
October 8, 2026
PRE-RALLY CONCERT 10 AM
RALLY 11 AM | MARCH 12 PM
THE STATE HOUSE ANNEX
145 West State St., Trenton, NJ 08608

NEW JERSEY MARCH FOR LIFE

HOSTED BY:
MARCH FOR LIFE **New Jersey Right to Life**